



**US Army Corps
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Honolulu District loses beloved Deputy for Small Business

By Honolulu District Public Affairs

(FORT SHAFTER, HI - NR-10-08) The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District lost a highly respected employee and beloved member of the District Ohana March 6, 2008 when Monica A. Kaji, the District's Deputy for Small Business passed away at the age of 58.

"Mrs. Kaji was a dedicated and highly capable employee and a warm and compassionate person. We will miss her very much," said Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Charles H. Klinge. "Our thoughts and prayers are with her family."

In recent years, Mrs. Kaji served as the District's subject matter expert on small business and provided information and assistance to a variety of small business concerns in Hawaii and the Pacific Region on how to do business with the Corps. She also served as liaison for small businesses, the District Contracting Office and the federal Small Business Administration.

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2-2-2 MONICA KAJI

Mrs. Kaji's federal service began in 1982 as a GS-3 procurement clerk at Tripler Army Medical Center. She later transferred to the Corps of Engineers where she worked her way up through the ranks in the 1980s and 1990s.

In April 1998 she was named as the Honolulu District Deputy for Small Business – the principal advisor and assistant to the District Commander - for planning and directing the Small and Disadvantaged Business Program.

Mrs. Kaji was promoted to GS-12 in 2000.

Mrs. Kaji was presented the Civilian Award for Humanitarian Service on June 10, 1993 for her outstanding contributions for emergency relief efforts on the island of Kauai following Hurricane Iniki.

In 2002 she was selected as the Small Business Association's Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization Person of the Year.

Mrs. Kaji earned a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Hawaii Pacific University in 1995 under the Army Tuition Assistance Program and later achieved Level II Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act certification.

Mrs. Kaji was presented an award for 25 years of faithful service as a federal employee in Oct. 2007.

Mrs. Kaji's family and friends gathered for funeral services to celebrate her life on March 19, 2008 at Harris United Methodist Church, 20 South Vineyard Blvd., Honolulu.

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